

BEAUTY & BROKENNESS

GOD'S STORY | AN EPIC OF LOVE

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WHAT IS AN 'EPIC'?

- Merriam Webster's gives a simple definition of an 'Epic'- : "telling a story about a hero or about exciting events or adventures."
- The story that we want to tell in this series is the one where God is the Hero, and we are the adventure! It is the sweeping epic of God's story in the bible.
- When you and I begin to see that our lives are primarily about God and not us, we begin to see the meaning and purpose of our own lives.

IN THE BEGINNING

- **God's Story begins before the world was created.**
 - God has always existed in perfect fellowship as a Triune being. He is magnificent.
 - God's first created beings were Angels, to serve around His throne.
 - At that time 2 major events occurred: 1) Lucifer rebelled (taking 1/3), and 2) God decided to carry out a plan to create a loving family of His own.

GOD'S PLAN

- **Ephesians 1:3-11**
 - God loved us and chose us before creation (4)
 - God decided in advance to create a family (5)
 - God takes great pleasure in showering His grace on us, even though it cost the blood of His own dear Son (6-8)
 - God is working in time to bring all things under the authority of Jesus Christ (9-11)

GOD'S FAMILY

- **Genesis 2:7-9**
 - Adam was uniquely created and the result was a being who could relate with God in love. The race from Adam would be God's family. But Adam was alone.
- **Genesis 2:15-17**
 - God dignified Adam by sharing meaningful work with him, and by giving Adam the choice to show love to God through obedience. One tree.

- **Genesis 2:18-24**
 - God's choice is to create all mankind from the first man, Adam. Whereas he was created from the dust, Eve will be created from him!
 - Romans will tell us, *"When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned"* (ROMANS 5:12)
 - They are married, and they start God's family

THE SERPENT

- **Genesis 23:1-7**
 - Satan tempts by turning us away from God's provision and toward His prohibitions.
 - Satan tempts by asking us to believe and act on his deception: "true life can be found in disobedience to God."
 - Sin opened their eyes to guilt, shame, and hiding from the fellowship they were created to enjoy, and their purpose to bring pleasure to God!

"Beware, Satan is like a fisherman, he baits the hook according to the appetite of the fish. He used pride to catch Adam and Eve. He lured them into believing that life would get better for them in disobedience to God's word."

THE RESULT

WE LIVE IN A WORLD CHARACTERIZED BY:

- Sin, the curse, pain in childbirth and a crying baby at birth, a battle between woman and man, man and the sweat of his brow, and death hangs over us all. You will surely die. Satan lied.
- But the woman's seed will crush the serpent's head, and the innocent will cover the guilty... the band aid is on, but the cure is coming...